

INTRODUCED: 12/3/2018

REFERRED TO: Committee of the Whole

SPONSOR: Councillor Osili

DIGEST: supports the Stepping Up Initiative, a national initiative to provide better access to resources in order to address mental health concerns in incarcerated populations

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SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councillor Osili

Drafted by: Angela Gonzalez, Assistant Clerk of the Council

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: November 29, 2018

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CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION supporting the Stepping Up Initiative, a national initiative to provide better access to resources in order to address mental health concerns in incarcerated populations.

WHEREAS, an estimated two million people with serious mental illnesses, approximately three-quarters of whom also have substance abuse disorders, are booked into local jails each year; and

WHEREAS, even though there are numerous drug treatment and mental health services available, many of these individuals are unable to access these resources for a variety of reasons; and public safety personnel do not always have the resources and protocol in place to divert some of these cases; causing many of these individuals to end up being incarcerated instead of receiving the treatment they need; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties (NACO), the American Psychiatric Association Foundation, and the Council of State Governments Justice Center launched the Stepping Up Initiative in May, 2015, to help provide counties with the tools they need to develop cross-systems and data-driven strategies to realize measurable reductions in the number of people with mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders entering the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Marion County has already taken steps to address this issue with the creation of the Reuben Engagement Center, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department's Mobile Crisis Assessment Teams (MCAT), and the proposed Assessment and Intervention Center, as a part of the Criminal Justice Complex project, to help divert such individuals into treatment programs and connect them to services to prevent or reduce their time in jail; and

WHEREAS, the Stepping Up Initiative has developed an online toolkit at *StepUpTogether.org* to provide a wealth of continuously updated resources for counties on the latest research and best practices; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council proudly supports the Stepping Up Initiative, a national initiative to provide better access to resources in order to address mental health concerns in incarcerated populations.

SECTION 2. The Council further commits to working with public and private entities to build on many of the innovative and proven practices already being implemented, sharing ideas and resources across the state and country, in order to advance this national initiative.

SECTION 3. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, at \_\_\_\_ p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vop Osili  
President, City-County Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
SaRita Hughes  
Clerk, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SaRita Hughes  
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor